

After several days of fire growth, cooler days are ahead

Over the past two days, new and existing fires have added 93,000 acres to 2018 records, putting the regional total at 946,488 acres to date. While a noteworthy figure, the number of acres impacted so far this year still do not exceed regional figures from the same time in 2017. With cooler temperatures and higher relative humidity coming into the region later this week, crews will have improved conditions for making progress on existing incidents. Milder weather has prompted Predictive Services to forecast *low or little or no risk* of severe fire potential for several areas of the region beginning Thursday; a stark contrast from previous weeks. Though it is unknown how long these favorable conditions will remain in the area, they may help maintain a gap between some 2017 and 2018 fire figures for a while longer.

Helpful Links:

PNW Execs blog: pnwexecs.blogspot.com (this page provide execs with easily accessed tools for looking ahead 3 days to 30 days. All are links to NWCC pages but made easy to find on this one page)

NWCC Blog: <http://nwccinfo.blogspot.com/>

Washington Smoke blog: <http://wasmoke.blogspot.com/>

7-Day Fire Potential Outlook: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/fwx/guidance/DL.pdf>

NWCC Morning Brief: <https://gacc.nifc.gov/nwcc/content/products/intelligence/MORNINGBRIEF.pdf>

<https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/photographs/6093/>

Fire related articles:

Wildfire smoke choking Seattle

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/capital-weather-gang/wp/2018/08/21/wildfire-smoke-is-choking-seattle-obscur-ing-the-view-and-blocking-out-the-sun/?noredirect=on>

Monday air quality worst in the century

<https://www.seattlepi.com/washington-wildfires/article/Monday-air-quality-worst-century-tuesday-smoke-13171263.php>

More controlled burns likely in Washington in effort to curb wildfires

<https://q13fox.com/2018/08/20/more-controlled-burns-likely-in-washington-in-effort-to-curb-wildfires/>

Unhealthy wildfire smoke blankets Portland

<https://www.oregonlive.com/expo/news/erry-2018/08/beb9436b279230/unhealthy-wildfire-smoke-blank.html>

Smoky air in western US delays flights, causes health concerns

https://www.oregonlive.com/pacific-northwest-news/index.ssf/2018/08/smoky_air_in_western_us_delays.html

New and Emerging Incidents

Oregon State –

Central Oregon –NW Team 7, IC Knerr joined OSFM Blue Team in unified command at 6 a.m. Tuesday over several incidents, including the following:

↝ *Stubblefield Fire:* The fire is burning 7 miles northwest of Condon. The fire has burned an estimated 21,000 acres and is at 50 percent containment. Point protection is taking place with 93 residences threatened.

↝ *Seale:* This 15,500 acre fire is 14 miles west of Condon and 15 percent contained. Six homes are threatened. It is expected to burn into the Stubblefield Fire, and possibly did today.

↝ *Lone Rock:* This fire is 4,500 acres with 20 percent containment burning 12 miles east of Condon. The small community of Lone Rock is within four miles of the fire’s edge. A community meeting is planned for 7:00 pm this evening in Lone Rock. Approximately 40 residences could be threatened.

↝ *Jennies Peak Fire:* This 36,000 acre fire with 10 percent containment is located 13 miles south of Fossil. Structures are threat-ed, evacuations and road closures are in place.

Kinzua Complex: A Type 3 IMT is managing multiple fires within a 10-mile radius of Fossil, totaling 550 acres and burning in a mix of timber and brush. The complex includes the previously reported 161 McDonald, 57 Kinzua, 158 Ricks Creek, 165 Rancheria, and 172 Oxhead Fires.

Terwilliger Fire: This fire is located on the Willamette National Forest near the Terwilliger Hot Springs and is at 150 acres with 15 percent containment. A Type 3 IMT is presently in command of the incident but will transfer command to NW Team 10, IC Sinclair at 6 a.m. Wednesday, after inbriefing today. The fire is on both sides of Cougar Reservoir. To the west, the fire threatens private timber. To the east, the fire is heading toward wilderness. More information can be found at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6160/>

Washington State –

Kelly Mountain is burning 44 acres and 55 percent contained, burning on the Colville National Forest. A Local Type 3 team is on the fire. No direct option is available, so crews will use roads in area, likely to be up to 800 acres. The fire is burning about a mile south of the Canadian border. More information can be found here: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6132/>

Kettle River/1904 Fire: started on Aug. 11 on private land, but escaped containment lines and burned onto the Colville NF. It is 49 acres and 75 percent contained. <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6132/>

LARGE INCIDENTS - WASHINGTON

Cougar Creek/Bannock Lake/White Pine/Lost Fires: CA Type 1 Team 5 (Young) is managing all four fires. Cougar Creek fire is reported at 37,775 acres and Bannock Lake Fire is at 444 acres. Containment is at 35 percent. Level 1 evacuations have been expanded to include 2,700 structures on the west flank and Level 2 evacuations were expanded to include 900 structures in the vicinity of Plain. One the west flank, a two to three mile fire front is pushing the fire. Significant spotting occurred across the contingency line and crews are working to hold the fire between the primary and contingency line. Mop up and patrol continues on the eastern flank of the fire. A public meeting in Plain last night was well-attended. One firefighter was treated for a chainsaw cut to the back of the leg. More information is at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6053/>

Crescent Mountain/McLeod/Doe Fires: (SA IMT 1, IC Wilkins) The 31,056-acre Crescent Mountain fire, and the 14,611-acre [McLeod Fire](#) are burning on the Methow Valley Ranger District of the Okanogan-Wenatchee NF. Containment for Crescent Mountain Fire is at 34 percent. Level 3 evacuation levels remain in effect for 40 homes in the area of Twisp. A Level 2 evacuation order has been issued for people living west of Newby Creek Road to Little Bridge Creek Road in the Twisp River Valley. On Crescent Mountain, the fire made a significant run to the west, southwest yesterday, pushed by strong winds. Crews are working to hold and strengthen contingency line in this area and will implement firing operations if the conditions permit. Personnel on the McLeod Fire have been kept busy with 30-40 spots reported from the same wind event. All detected spots have been suppressed but the fire moved past primary containment lines on the west flank. During night shift, a snag fell on a firefighter, requiring transport to the hospital for injuries to the eye, shoulder and hip. Cooperator meetings continue daily and a community meeting is planned for 6:30 p.m. Tuesday evening at the Methow Community Center in Twisp. A PBS NOVA filming crew is on site, focusing on instances where fuel treatments helped mitigate fire growth. More information is at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6093/>

Boyd's Fire: (NW Team 11, IC Rabe) This fire is more than 3,778 acres with 49 percent containment and burning 3 miles west of Kettle Falls. A seven acres spot fire with several smaller spots moved up a ridge on the western flank yesterday. Crews were able to move heavy equipment to western contingency lines to hold the fire. Focus will remain on the west flank where hand and mechanical resources will continue work. Tactical firing operations will also continue in this area. The team is coordinating closely for several products with NW Team 9 on the Horns Mountain Fire and is lending IA resources. More information can be found here: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6139/>

Horns Mountain: (NW Team 9, IC Goff) This fire on the Colville NF started less than one mile from the Canadian border and is 3,111 acres and 20 percent contained. Evacuations remain in place on the Canadian side. British Columbia is providing some heavy equipment and supporting fire operations on the BC side but has faced challenging conditions and has limited resources. On the US side, the fire made a 2.2 mile run to the west crossing contingency lines and burning into an area of beetle kill timber. Crews are working to contain this flank through dozer work on existing roads. Firing operations will take place from the north to the south on the western flank. More information can be found here: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6138/>

Miriam Fire: (NW Team 8, IC Johnson) The fire is 3,448 acres, 39% contained and burning 3 miles east of the White Pass Ski Area in the Goat Rocks Wilderness, 32 miles southwest of Naches, WA. Evacuations remain in place. On the northwestern portion of the fire, mop up continues. Burnout operations are being conducted on the east flank and the areas of Miriam and Hell Creek on the west flank continue to be monitored for heat. Most activity continues on the southern edge where crews continue to strengthen established line. No injuries were reported but a WADOT employee was treated for a bee sting. An IR flight showed the Clear Lake Fire at 10 acres. The IMT is meeting with agency administrators today to plan how the incident will be managed in the future. A representative of Rep. Cantwell’s will be in the area tomorrow. More information is at <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6066/>.

LARGE INCIDENTS - OREGON

Taylor Creek and Klondike Fire: (AK Team 1, IC T. Kurth, CA 4, IC J. Kurth). Taylor Creek is at 52,588 acres with 95 percent containment and some suppression repair work taking place on the east. Klondike Fire is showing at 68,241 acres with 28 percent containment. On the west side, a 50-acre spot fire near the fork of Silver Creek kept air resources busy yesterday as crews could not access the area by ground. Further assessment is taking place to determine the best course of action. On the southern front of the fire, crews were successful at moving the fire’s edge over Fiddler Peak and into the Chetco Bar Fire scar. Focus will be placed on strengthening and deepening line in this area with air resources being used if conditions permit. Work is under way to plan a glide path for AK IMT 1. A public meeting took place last night in Cave Junction and one is scheduled for tomorrow in Gold Beach. A staffer from Rep. DeFazio’s office will be in the area on Thursday. More information is at the swojic.blogspot.com and <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6058/> for Taylor Creek and <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5998/> for Klondike.

Watson Creek – (NW Team 6, IC Sheldon) This fire is burning 13 miles west of Paisley on the Fremont-Winema NF in an area of heavy, dead and down timber. It started Aug. 15 and has grown to more than 32,000 acres with 5 percent containment. Level 1 and 3 evacuations remain in place for approximately 20 residences under each level. Camp was moved from Bly to Paisley, which will significantly reduce drive times. Six miles of containment line has been built on the south and four on the north. Crews are working to connect roads on the east by dozer and are prepping the west flank for burnout operations. One success was noted where the fire’s growth was mitigated once it reached an area treated by prescribed burn by the district. A community meeting is planned for 7:00 p.m. in Paisley tomorrow night. More information is available at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/6153/>

Natchez Fire: NW Team 8 (IC Johnson) assumed command at 6 a.m. today of the 20,275-acre Natchez Fire, which is 70 percent contained. Evacuation notifications remain in place. Firing operations were successful yesterday and crews continue to hold and improve line. The northern and eastern sides of the fire are in patrol status. A public meeting is planned for 6:00 pm in Happy Camp. More information is the swojic.blogspot.com and <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5948/>

Miles/Columbus (ODF Team 3, IC Smith and PNW Team 3 - IC Livingston) Evacuation levels were downgraded to Level 1 in all areas. The fire is at 47,005 acres with 39 percent containment. Crews continue to focus efforts on mop up and backhauling as the Miles and Columbus Fires burn together. With the history of delegation, the financial package is highly complex and challenging. A water tender backed into a truck yesterday. One firefighter was transported after a severe allergic reaction to a bee sting. Today is the last shift of ODF3. More information is available at: <https://inciweb.nwcg.gov/incident/5966/>